Finance & Judiciary Committee Meeting
MINUTES
July 27, 2010
6:00 p.m.

Members: Ben Kessler, Chair, Richard Sharp, Rick Weber

Roll Call: All members present.

Others Present: Mayor Brennan, Lou Chodosh, Beecher Hale, Bill Harvey, Matt Lampke, Mark Masser, President McClelland, Jed Morison, Chief Rinehart.

Review of Minutes: July 13, 2010- Approved

Presentation and/or Special Guests: None.

Ordinances & Resolutions

Third Readings.

Ordinance 32-10 to amend Ordinance 103-06 expanding the scope of the Jeffrey Mansion tuck pointing and roof replacement project to include interior renovations as well as exterior renovations, introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on June 22, 2010) Previously approved.

Ordinance 33-10 to reduce appropriations in the Street Maintenance and Repair Fund (03) $88,000.00, introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on June 22, 2010) Previously approved.

Second Readings.
None.

First Readings.

Ordinance 36-10 authorizing the Service Director to seek financial assistance from the OPWC for funding of various capital infrastructure improvement projects, introduced by Mr. Kessler (Introduced on July 27, 2010) Vote 3-0 to recommend suspension and adoption.

Mr. Harvey requested a suspension and adoption for the Ordinance. He said the Street Fund was depleted prior to receiving the College Avenue grant. This Ordinance asks Council to authorize Mr. Harvey to apply for a grant. The deadline is early September. This Ordinance simply allows the City to apply for the grant. They use a point system when awarding funds. The higher scores receive the funds. He has been meeting with engineering and consulting firms regarding steps the City could take in order to receive

more points. The same process applied to Sheridan Avenue. He also met with Capital University regarding their possible participation as well.

Mr. Harvey said this does not obligate the City in any manner to match funding. This Ordinance applies to the application process only. Once rewarded, it is usually divided 60% - 40% of the obligation. Mr. Sharp asked if this would be available for water and sewer as well. Mr. Harvey answered yes; the City would be applying for water and sewer lines for College Avenue. Mr. Harvey made a note that Fair Avenue should be removed from the Ordinance.

New Business: Mr. Hale distributed a draft of the budget for Council's review over recess in August. Mr. Morison asked if the 2010 column were the expenditures to date or projected. Mr. Hale said it is very similar to the one used last year. This year he did change the expenses to allocate the costs of benefits to each department rather than as one lump sum. Mr. Masser said the two numbers listed for 2010 in the budget are a percentage change from 2009. He said these aren't final numbers. He asked if Mr. Hale to provide him with the exact figures to date through August, 2010. Mr. Hale said he will provide those figures. Mr. Masser requested these figures be listed as far out as possible. President McClelland stated that once November/December is reached, we should have a better idea. Mr. Sharp said the budget currently contains only 6 months of actual figures. President McClelland said the tax budget is applied and the City did receive $300,000. Mr. Sharp said he would like to view the actual numbers in lieu of a forecast.

Mr. Weber said he had a question on notes about the health insurance rate. He asked if this number was in the neighborhood or will it be increasing 15% roughly or closer to a 20% increase. Mr. Kessler said he did have an update. He stated he met with Tony Lombardo along with the administration last week. Mr. Lombardo presented figures from the HRA plan. The estimated Health Savings Account is slightly higher but it is a fixed amount versus a variable amount on the part of the City. The Health Savings Account actually allows the deposit for all employees which can be used for medical costs or saved and carried over to the next year. The increase from an HRA plan to the Health Savings Account plan is approximately 5%. A lot will depend on the assumption of the amount provided to the employees under the Health Savings Account. The police officers would like to see us move to a Health Savings Account. Mr. Lombardo will be presenting this plan to Council once he has received the rates from Anthem for 2011.

Mr. Sharp said the new governmental changes may have an impact on this coverage as well. Mr. Kessler said one of the major changes for 2011 is the Flexible Savings Account will no longer allow reimbursement of over-the-counter medication. He said with the Health Savings Account there is a penalty of 10% (which may be increasing to 20%) if the funds are used incorrectly. A Health Savings Account can be spent on long term health care as well.

Mr. Hale said this budget is based on insurance premiums remaining the same but the payout is where you will see the price amount. Mr. Harvey said a lot of employees didn't meet their deductible. Mr. Kessler said there is always the potential for having a bad year

with claims as well. Mr. Harvey said for the additional $50,000, you can lock in that risk. If someone normally reaches their maximum deductible each year, they would be better off with the HRA.

Ordinance 28-10 – Tabled: Mr. Langner requested that this Ordinance be removed from the table regarding payment to the School Board for 2009. **Vote 3-0 to recommend removal from the Table and Adoption.**

Old Business: Mr. Sharp said he has asked Mr. Hale to research hotel/motel tax issues for the City.

Mr. Masser said although they have passed the Renewal Ordinance for the levy, are there any committees currently working on process.

Mr. Morison requested that **Ordinance 09-10** be removed from the Table as well. **Vote 3-0 to recommend.**

President McClelland said he had met with the Mayor to discuss campaign strategies for the levy. It is his intention to have a meeting regarding committee fundraising. In the past, Mayor Madison handled these issues. He and Mayor Brennan will be touching base with the Council Members to discuss this issue further. President McClelland asked if there was a number issued yet for the ballot. Mr. Morison said it will be mid-August before the ballot number is received. Mr. Morison said they should meet in the next two weeks to discuss campaign purposes and would consider this an open meeting.

President McClelland scheduled August 10, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. for the campaign meeting. He said this meeting will not be mandatory. Mr. Masser offered to provide dinner since the meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Lampke said he will be out of town that week but suggested a curb and sidewalk campaign with signs. Mayor Brennan said they will need a total of $5,000 for the campaign. His suggestion was for each Council member to raise $500.00 toward this cause.

Adjourned 6:45 p.m.